

Area Work Group Program Description

NRCS Area 3-FY'03 EQIP

1. List the area resource concerns that EQIP can address: **All area, state and national priorities can be addressed to some degree by EQIP. The highest priorities in the area are Water Resource Protection, Forest Management, Gully Erosion Control and Grazing Management.**
2. If applicable, list any geographic regions (i.e. watersheds, townships, etc.) and their respective resource concerns within the area to receive priority: **Water resource protection in the Lake Superior Basin, St. Croix River, Rainy River and other sensitive watersheds will be given priority by weighting factor B1 scoring.**
3. Prioritize and weight each area resource concern for NRCS Area 3. Weight must be between 1 and 10:

Factor	Resource Priority	Weight
A1. Erosion Control	5	5
A2 Gully Control	3	8
B1 Water Resource	1	10
B2 Wastewater/CNMP	7	5
C Habitat Improvement	6	5
D Air Quality	10	1
E Impaired Water	9	4
F Distance	8	5
G Grazing System	4	8
H Forest Mgt.	2	10
Additional Area*		10

* If the additional area concern is scored, describe the concern here and how points will be scored. Include any geographic priorities. **Area resource concerns related to water resource protection and forestry management have been weighted the highest under factors B1 and H. Outreach to underserved clientele such as limited resource producers, American Indian Tribes/Individuals and other identified groups will score factor I points based on participant application data.**

4. Attach the scoring worksheet as recommended for the area.
5. List any recommended practices to be deleted from the State Conservation Practice Payment Document: **NONE**

The Area EQIP program description, cost-share docket changes, and ranking worksheet must be reviewed and approved by the State Conservationist before any EQIP contract is approved and signed.

This document serves as the Area Work Group recommendation for FY 03 EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Area Work Group: B. Kevin Daw, NRCS; Ted Lovdahl, MASWCD; Eli Sagor, UMES; Ron Shelito, BWSR; Brian Fredrickson; MPCA; Dennis Tressel, NRCS; Nate Meyer, UMES

B. Kevin Daw, Area Conservationist
Chair, Local Work Group

July 22, 2003
Date